PTO/SB/08a (05-03)

Approved for use through 04/30/2003. OMB 0851-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Institute for form 1449A/PTO

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)

**Sheet** of

	oto if Manua					
Complete if Known						
Application Number	10/795,968					
Filing Date	March 8, 2004					
First Named Inventor	HABECKER et al.					
Art Unit	1742					
Examiner Name	Daniel J. Jenkins					
Attorney Docket Number	99066CON2 (3600-198-02)					

			r		ATENT DO	OOM, ENT		T	
xaminer	.Cite No.1	Document Number	MAN-DD-VVVV		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document			Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant	
7.1		Number - Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known) US-3,169,862 02/16/1985		<del></del>			Figures Appear		
4-		US-3,169,662 US-3,849,124	02/16/1965 11/19/1974	_	Scheller Villani				
-I	<del> </del>	US-4,084,985	04/18/1978		Fry		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		
+		US-4,184,455	08/14/1979		Aronson et	al		<del></del>	
44		US-4,347,084	08/31/1982		Hähn et al.	di.		· ·	
<del>-7)  </del>		US-	00/31/1802		naiiii et ai.				
		US-	h						
		US-	ļ				·	<del></del>	
		US-	<b></b>			······	<del></del>		
		US-							
		US-							
		US-					<del></del>	<del></del>	
		US-							
		US-							
		US-	<u> </u>						
		US-						·	
		US-				····			
		US-							
		US-							
		US-							
			FO	REIGI	N PATENT	DOCUME	NTS		
				D. 40	olication Date Name of Patentee or Applicant of		Pages, Columns, Lines,		
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>			Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY  06/28/1985		Cited Document  Tosoh Corporation		Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	7
N	JP S60-121207							Unexamined published Japanese patent application with English translation	×
<i>ν</i>								1	
		<u> </u>					T.		
Examine Signature		NULA	^				Date Considered	9/18/83	<b>-</b> .

"EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. "Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional)." See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at <a href="https://www.uspto.gov">www.uspto.gov</a> or MPEP 901.04. "Enter Office that Issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). "For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. "Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 18 if possible. "Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached. Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

PTO/SB/08a (05-03)
Approved for use through 04/30/2003. OMB 0651-0031
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO				Complete if Known			
				Application Number	10/795,968		
IAIF	CORMATION	DICOL O	CURE	Filing Date	March 8, 2004		
· ·	ORMATION			First Named Inventor	HABECKER et al.		
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)				Art Unit	1742		
				Examiner Name	Daniel J. Jenkins		
Sheet	2	of	2	Attorney Docket Number	99066CON2 (3600-198-02)		

		NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS	
Examiner tnitials*	Cite No.'	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published.	T²
1/8		Opposition filed in EP-B-0 946 323, printed 05/08/2004	
W		FUTAKI et al., "Ultrafine Refractory Metal Particles Produced by Hybrid Plasma Process," J. JAPAN INST. METALS, Vol. 56, No. 4, 1992, pp. 464-471 (with partial translation).	
3		KREHL et al., "The Influence of Gas Atmospheres on the First-Stage Sintering of High-Purity Niobium Powders," METALLURGICAL TRANSACTIONS A, Vol. 15A, June 1984, pp. 1111-1116.	
Examine Signatur		Date Considered 9//8/a	5

"EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if rot in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. 'Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 'See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at <a href="https://www.uspto.gov">www.uspto.gov</a> or MPEP 901.04. 'Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). 'For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. 'Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. 'Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached. Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.